

WPCC sends plans for library to state

By HERBERT BLAKE
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Western Piedmont Community College trustees Monday approved a preliminary proposal for the construction of a new 45,000-square-foot library, to be located between the new vocational building and Building G.

The Project Proposal for Grant of Capital Construction Funds includes a pre-design description of the proposed \$4,000,010 library and will be sent on for approval from the N.C. Department of Community Colleges.

The college's proposed library would replace the current library, located on the second floor of the Moore Administration building. College officials say the present library is too small.

State approval would allow college officials to use the \$420,000 it has for the project and begin the architectural design stage.

Morganton architect Robert Salsbury was at the trustees' quarterly meeting to update school officials on the project's early stages.

"What we're thinking is a building that will be a focal point for the campus," he told trustees.

Salsbury said the next step for he and project consultants will be to put the proposed project into a formal written program from which prelimi-

nary designs will be made.

Site, floor and elevation plans will be ready to send to the department of community colleges in mid-August, he said.

The proposal calls for a two-story facility, 180-feet long by 125-feet wide, with 22,500 square feet on each floor, Salsbury said.

Library space and an audio-visuals department are planned for the facility's main level, he said, with classrooms being located in the lower level.

The new facility would fit into the campus by forming a quadrangle with the school's other buildings, he said.

A more detailed proposal will be re-submitted to the department as funds become available.

College officials must raise, possibly with state help, the remainder of the project cost.

In other items, trustees approved the school's \$4,966,298 budget request for operating and capital funds from the state for fiscal year 1985-86.

The request is the amount college officials were told by the state would be available.

Budgeting of the state money breaks down like this: general administration — \$355,729; curriculum instruction — \$2,343,762; continuing

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education — \$1,061,110; learning resources — \$241,429; student services — \$239,035; general institutional — \$464,340; and capital expenditures — \$260,893.

College officials should know in July how much of their state request will be funded.

Trustees may know tonight how much of their \$963,583 funding request from Burke County is funded as commissioners consider the county budget at a public hearing in Morganton.

WPCC President Jim Richardson told trustees that with the county's current financial crunch, the college's request would probably not be funded in full as County Manager Jim Haynes has recommended.

"We're going to work with them (the county) any way we can. We just have our fingers crossed," Richardson said.

"I have been assured that quality will not be affected," he added.

In addition, trustees decided to enter into a pilot program with N.C. State University and become the community college in the state to offer a doctoral internship to a student studying community college administration.

The N.C. State student will work as an assistant to Richardson for five

months, beginning Jan. 2.

Richardson said the internship will free regular administration personnel to pursue special projects which they normally don't have time to undertake.

Trustees also presented a plaque of appreciation to board member Jack Drum, whose term expires at the end of June. Trustee Bob Byrd's term also expires at the end of the month, but he was absent and was unable to receive

a plaque.

In other items, trustees:

- Approved leaves of absence for Cheryl Oxford and Cynthia Davis to complete further studies.

- Awarded a bid to Thompson Contracting Co. of Rutherfordton to pave the school's entrance and access roads at \$29 per ton of asphalt.

- Agreed to resolutions honoring retiring faculty members Dr. Charles Waters and Mildred Messick.

- Approved changing faculty members' vacation calendar to run from Sept. 1 through August 31 and coincide with the academic year.

- Voted to accept \$36,024.06 in budget revisions to the school's current 1984-85 budget.

- Decided that the city of Morganton should decide on the Senior Center Advisory Council's plans to finish construction on the Morganton-Burke Senior Center's basement.